# Township of Otsego Allegan County, Michigan FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

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# MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

# Township of Otsego MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

The following discussion and analysis is intended as a narrative overview of the Township of Otsego, Michigan's operations over the fiscal year and its financial condition on March 31, 2008. Please read it in conjunction with the Township's financial statements.

### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- The Township's total net assets increased by \$175,263 as a result of this year's operations. Net assets of the governmental activities increased by \$83,849 while the net assets of the business-type activities increased by \$91,414.
- Of the \$5,569,297 total net assets reported, \$1,699,873 (31percent) is unrestricted, or available to be used at the Board's discretion.
- The General Fund's unreserved, undesignated fund balance at the end of the fiscal year was \$365,022, which represents 53 percent of the actual total General Fund expenditures for the current fiscal year.

### Overview of the financial statements

This discussion and analysis introduces the Township's basic financial statements that follow this section. The Township's annual financial report is comprised of three parts: management's discussion and analysis, the basic financial statements, and required supplementary information. The basic financial statements include two kinds of statements that present different views of the Township:

- The first two statements are government-wide financial statements that provide both long-term and short-term information about the Township's overall financial status.
- The remaining statements are fund financial statements that focus on individual parts of the Township government, reporting the Township's operations in more detail than the governmentwide financial statements.
  - The governmental fund statements tell how general governmental services like public works and public safety were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending.
  - o Proprietary fund statements offer short- and long-term financial information about the activities the Township operates like a business. The Township's proprietary fund accounts for its water and wastewater systems.

The financial statements also include notes that explain some of the information in the financial statements and provide more detailed data. The financial statements are followed by a section of required supplementary information that further explains and supports the information in the financial statements.

A comparative analysis of the basic financial statements for 2008 and 2007 is also presented.

### Government-wide financial statements

The government-wide financial statements report information about the Township as a whole using accounting methods similar to those used by private-sector companies. The statement of net assets includes all of the Township's assets and liabilities. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are accounted for in the statement of activities regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The two government-wide statements report the Township's net assets and how they have changed. Net assets (the difference between the Township's assets and liabilities) is one way to measure the Township's financial health, or position.

- Over time, increases or decreases in the Township's net assets are an indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating, respectively.
- To assess the overall health of the Township you need to consider additional nonfinancial factors such as changes in the Township's property tax base and the condition of the Township's capital assets.

The government-wide financial statements of the Township are divided into two categories:

- Governmental activities These activities include functions most commonly associated with government (e.g., general government, public safety, public works, etc.). Property taxes and intergovernmental revenues finance most of these activities.
- Business-type activities The Township charges fees to customers to help it cover the costs of certain services. The Township's water and wastewater system operations are reported here.

### Fund financial statements

The fund financial statements provide more detailed information about the Township's most significant funds - not the Township as a whole. Funds are accounting devices that the Township uses to keep track of specific sources of funding and spending for particular purposes.

- Some funds are required by state law and by grant agreements.
- The Township Board establishes other funds to control and manage money for particular purposes (like cemetery operations) or to show that it is properly using certain taxes and other revenues (like the refuse collection millage).

The Township has three kinds of funds:

• Governmental funds. Most of the Township's basic services are included in governmental funds, which focus on (1) how cash, and other financial assets that can be readily converted to cash, flow in and out and, (2) the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. Consequently, the governmental funds statements provide a detailed short-term view that helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the Township's programs. Because this information does not encompass the additional long-term focus of the government-wide statements, we provide additional information at the bottom of the governmental funds statement that explains the relationship between them.

- Proprietary funds. Services for which the Township charges customers a fee are generally reported in proprietary funds. Proprietary funds, like the government-wide statements, provide both long-and short-term financial information.
- Fiduciary funds. These funds are used to account for the collection and disbursement of
  resources, primarily taxes, for the benefit of parties outside the Township. The Township is
  responsible for ensuring that the assets reported in these funds are used for their intended
  purpose. The Township's fiduciary balances are reported in separate Statement of Fiduciary Net
  Assets Fiduciary Funds. We exclude these activities from the Township's government-wide
  financial statements because the Township cannot use these assets to finance its operations.

### FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE TOWNSHIP AS A WHOLE

**Net assets**. Total net assets at the end of the fiscal year were \$5,569,297, an increase of 3 percent from the prior year. However, \$3,772,792 of this total is invested in capital assets, and \$96,632 is restricted for public works. Consequently, unrestricted net assets were \$1,699,873, 31% of the total. While the Township reports unrestricted net assets under both governmental and business-type activities, the unrestricted net assets of the business-type activities cannot be used to make up any net asset deficit in governmental activities.

### Condensed financial information Net Assets

	Governmental activities			ss-type vities	Totals		
	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	
Current and other assets Capital assets	\$ 575,989 867,053	\$ 612,007 757,674	\$ 1,324,314 4,370,794	\$ 1,221,434 4,484,917	\$ 1,900,303 5,237,847	\$ 1,833,441 5,242,591	
Total assets	1,443,042	1,369,681	5,695,108	5,706,351	7,138,150	7,076,032	
Long-term debt Other liabilities	11,388 39,224	22,101 38,999	1,500,000 18,241	1,605,000 15,898	1,511,388 57,465	1,627,101 54,897	
Total liabilities	50,612	61,100	1,518,241	1,620,898	1,568,853	1,681,998	
Net assets: Invested in capital assets,							
net of related debt	855,665	735,573	2,917,127	2,957,351	3,772,792	3,692,924	
Restricted	96,632	90,234	4 950 740	4 400 400	96,632	90,234	
Unrestricted	440,133	482,774	1,259,740	<u>1,128,102</u>	1,699,873	1,610,876	
Total net assets	\$ 1,392,430	\$ 1,308,581	\$ 4,176,867	\$ 4,085,453	\$ 5,569,297	\$ 5,394,034	

**Changes in net assets.** The Township's total revenues in 2008 are \$1,473,771. Approximately 40 percent of the Township's revenues come from charges for services. State shared revenue accounts for 23 percent of the total revenues while property taxes account for about 13 percent.

The total cost of all the Township's programs for 2008, covering a wide range of services, totaled \$1,298,508. More than 43 percent of the Township's costs relate to the provision of utility services while general government represents 31 percent of all costs.

### Condensed financial information Changes in net assets

	Governme	Governmental activities		ype activities	Totals			
	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007		
Program revenues:				-		***************************************		
Charges for services	\$ 217,181	\$ 230,271	\$ 368,386	\$ 344,286	\$ 585,567	\$ 574,557		
Operating grants	5,481	5,467	-	-	5,481	5,467		
Capital grants	39,000	-	238,844	168,281	277,844	168,281		
General revenues:								
Property taxes	186,963	170,984	_	-	186,963	170,984		
State shared revenue	337,681	334,878	-	_	337,681	334,878		
Franchise fees	11,367	_	_	_	11,367	_		
Interest income	27,884	27,734	40,422	36,353	68,306	64,087		
Other	562	10,934			562	10,934		
Total revenues	826,119	780,268	647,652	548,920	1,473,771	1,329,188		
Expenses:								
Legislative	4,451	4,906	-	-	4,451	4,906		
General government	404,960	407,456	-	-	404,960	407,456		
Public safety	182,221	185,741	-	-	182,221	185,741		
Public works	92,688	80,553	-	-	92,688	80,553		
Community and economic								
development	42,557	28,824	-	-	42,557	28,824		
Culture and recreation	14,000	15,400	-	-	14,000	15,400		
Interest expense	1,393	-	-	=	1,393	-		
Public utilities			556,238	562,309	556,238	562,309		
Total expenses	742,270	722,880	556,238	562,309	1,298,508	1,285,189		
Increase (decrease) in net assets	\$ 83,849	\$ 57,388	\$ 91,414	<u>\$ (13,389</u> )	\$ 175,263	\$ 43,999		

### Governmental activities

Governmental activities increased the Township's net assets by \$83,849 in the current year compared to a \$57,388 increase in the prior year. Revenues increased \$45,851 while expenses increased by \$19,390. The primary reason for the increase in the net assets can be attributed to the recognition of capital grants, in the amount of \$39,000, during the current year.

The cost of all governmental activities this year was \$742,270 compared to \$722,880 in the prior year. After subtracting the direct charges to those who directly benefited from the programs (\$217,181), and operating and capital grants (\$44,481), the "public benefit" portion covered by property taxes, state shared revenue and other general revenues was \$480,608 in 2008 compared to \$487,142 in 2007.

### **Business-type activities**

The business-type activities increased the Township's net assets by \$91,414 in 2008 compared to a decrease of \$13,389 in 2007. Revenues increased by \$98,732 while expenses decreased by \$6,071. Net assets increased in 2008 due to nearly \$239,000 of capital charges and development fees. Development fees were minimal in the prior year when a decrease in net assets occurred, which would be expected as current operating charges are not intended to cover all operating costs, including depreciation.

### FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE TOWNSHIP'S FUNDS

**Governmental funds.** At March 31, 2008, the Township's governmental funds reported combined fund balances of \$536,765, which represents a \$ 36,243 decrease compared to the prior year.

The General Fund is the chief operating fund of the Township. At the end of the fiscal year, unreserved fund balance was \$365,022, which represents 53 percent of the actual total General Fund expenditures for the current fiscal year. The fund balance of the General Fund decreased by \$39,689 in 2008, when it had increased of \$23,504 in 2007. The change was primarily due to an increase in capital outlay costs associated with the contribution toward a new fire tanker truck with a cost of \$46,528.

The fund balance of the Cemetery Fund increased this year by \$3,446. The General Fund provided \$70,000 to the Cemetery Fund in the current year to support these operations.

**Proprietary fund.** The Public Utilities Fund, the Township's sole proprietary fund, experienced an increase in net assets of \$91,414 for reasons explained above.

### General Fund budgetary highlights

The Township amended the General Fund budgeted expenditures during the year primarily to transfer appropriations between activities. Total budgeted expenditures were increased by \$45,000.

Revenues and transfers in were \$26,615 less than budgeted while expenditures and transfers to other funds were \$80,619 less than the amounts appropriated. These conditions resulted in a \$54,004 positive budget variance and a \$39,689 decrease in fund balance compared to a budgeted \$93,693 decrease. The general government and public works functions were under budget by \$38,103 and \$12,872 respectively. These positive variances were accomplished through cost reductions and monitoring by the Township Board during the fiscal year.

# Township of Otsego MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (Continued)

### Capital assets and debt administration

### Capital assets

At March 31, 2008, the Township had invested \$5,237,847 (net of accumulated depreciation) in various capital assets, including its land, buildings, equipment, and utilities systems. This amount represents a net decrease of \$4,744, comprised of \$195,847 in additions and \$200,591 in provisions for depreciation.

This year's major capital asset additions included:

- \$131,384 in road improvements, an intangible asset
- Acquisition of a fire tanker truck at a cost of \$46,528

More detailed information about the Township's capital assets is presented in Note 5 of the basic financial statements.

### Debt administration

At the end of the fiscal year, the Township had debt outstanding in the amount of \$1,511,388, which represents a decrease of \$115,713 or 7 percent. All debt is backed by the full faith and credit of the Township.

All required principal payments, in the amount of \$115,713, were paid in a timely manner.

More detailed information about the Township's long-term obligations is presented in Note 6 of the basic financial statements.

### **Economic condition and outlook**

The Township continues to enjoy economic stability with taxable values increasing by \$7.9 million and a slight increase in funding from state shared revenue. The Township does not base its revenues on a single company or manufacturing operation, but instead enjoys a balanced mix of commercial, industrial and residential properties which helps to insure steady property tax revenues. While the Township anticipates stable income streams for the upcoming year, the increased cost of oil and oil based products will limit the scope of any potential roadwork projects that may be undertaken.

### Contacting the Township's financial management

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Township's finances to its citizens, customers, investors, and creditors, and to demonstrate the Township's accountability for the money it receives. Questions regarding any information provided in this report or request for additional financial information should be addressed to:

Township of Otsego P.O. Box 257 400 N. 16<sup>th</sup> Street Otsego, MI 49078 Phone: (269) 694-9434



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Telephone 269-381-4970 800-876-0979 Fax 269-349-1344

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

Board of Trustees Township of Otsego, Michigan

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Township of Otsego, Michigan, as of March 31, 2008, and for the year then ended, which collectively comprise the Township's basic financial statements, as listed in the contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Township's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Township of Otsego, Michigan, as of March 31, 2008, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

The management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison schedules, as listed in the contents, are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.



Board of Trustees Township of Otsego, Michigan Page 2

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Township of Otsego, Michigan's, basic financial statements. The supplementary data, as listed in the contents, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Sigfied Crosell P.C.

July 21, 2008

# **BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

# Township of Otsego STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

	Governmental Business-type activities activities		Totals	
ASSETS				
Current assets:				
Cash	\$ 454,420	\$ 946,054	\$ 1,400,474	
Receivables	121,569	75,592	197,161	
Total current assets	575,989	1,021,646	1,597,635	
Noncurrent assets:				
Receivables	-	256,335	256,335	
Deferred charges, net of amortization	_	46,333	46,333	
Capital assets not being depreciated Capital assets, net of accumulated	11,850	51,860	63,710	
depreciation	855,203	4,318,934	5,174,137	
Total noncurrent assets	867,053	4,673,462	5,540,515	
Total assets	1,443,042	5,695,108	7,138,150	
LIABILITIES				
Current liabilities:				
Payables	39,224	18,241	57,465	
Current portion of long-term obligations	11,388		11,388	
Total current liabilities	50,612	18,241	68,853	
Noncurrent liabilities:				
Noncurrent portion of long-term obligations		1,500,000	1,500,000	
Total liabilities	50,612	1,518,241	1,568,853	
NET ASSETS				
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	855,665	2,917,127	3,772,792	
Restricted for public works	96,632	_,•,.=.	96,632	
Unrestricted	440,133	1,259,740	1,699,873	
Total net assets	\$ 1,392,430	\$ 4,176,867	\$ 5,569,297	

# Township of Otsego STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Year ended March 31, 2008

			Program revenues						
Functions/Programs	Ex	penses	Operating Charges for grants an services contributio		Charges for grants		ts and	gra	Capital ants and tributions
Governmental activities:									
Legislative	\$	4,451	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	
General government		404,960		150,557		-		19,000	
Public safety		182,221		54,345		-		-	
Public works		92,688		6,629		5,481		20,000	
Community and economic									
development		42,557		5,650		-		-	
Recreation and culture		14,000		-		-		-	
Interest on long-term debt		1,393			-				
Total governmental									
activities		742,270		217,181		5,481		39,000	
Business-type activities:									
Public utilities		556,238		368,386				238,844	
Totals	\$	1,298,508	<u>\$</u>	585,567	\$	5,481	\$	277,844	

### General revenues:

Property taxes
State shared revenue
Cable television franchise fees
Interest income
Other

Total general revenues

Change in net assets

Net assets - beginning

Net assets - ending

# Net (expenses) revenues and changes in net assets

vernmental activities	siness-type activities	 Totals
\$ (4,451) (235,403) (127,876)		\$ (4,451) (235,403) (127,876)
(60,578)		(60,578)
 (36,907) (14,000) (1,393)		(36,907) (14,000) (1,393)
(480,608)		(480,608)
	\$ 50,992	 50,992
 (480,608)	50,992	 (429,616)
186,963 337,681	-	186,963 337,681
11,367	-	11,367
 27,884 562	 40,422 	 68,306 562
 564,457	40,422	 604,879
83,849	91,414	175,263
 1,308,581	 4,085,453	 5,394,034
\$ 1,392,430	\$ 4,176,867	\$ 5,569,297

# Township of Otsego BALANCE SHEET - governmental funds

		Major	funa	ls		onmajor ernmental fund	gov	Total ernmental
	G	eneral	Cemetery			Trash	funds	
ASSETS Cash Receivables	\$	433,236 67,642	\$	21,184 53,927	\$	<u>-</u>	\$	454,420 121,569
Total assets	\$	500,878	\$	75,111	<u>\$</u>	-	\$	575,989
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES								
Liabilities - payables	\$	39,224	\$	_	\$	-	\$	39,224
Fund balances:  Reserved for trash collection		96,632		<u></u>		_		96,632
Unreserved		365,022		75,111				440,133
Total fund balances		461,654		75,111				536,765
Total liabilities and								
fund balances	<u>\$</u>	500,878	\$	75,111	<u>\$</u>		\$	575,989
Total fund balances - governmental funds							\$	536,765
Amounts reported for <i>governmental activitie</i> net assets (page 5) are different because:	s in t	he statemo	ent o	f				
Capital assets used in governmental activitic resources and, therefore, are not reported in			cial					867,053
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable and, therefore, are not reported in the funds		e current	perio	d				(11,388)
Net assets of governmental activities							\$	1,392,430

# Township of Otsego STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - governmental funds

	Majoı	funds	Nonmajor governmental fund	Total governmental
	General	Cemetery	Trash	funds
REVENUES				
Property taxes	\$ 198,137	\$ -	\$ 38,925	\$ 237,062
Licenses and permits	61,939	-	-	61,939
State grants	343,162	-	-	343,162
Contribution from local unit	-	53,927	-	53,927
Charges for services	20,479	33,925	-	54,404
Interest and rentals	28,166	1,218	-	29,384
Other	27,191	50		27,241
Total revenues	679,074	89,120	38,925	807,119
EXPENDITURES				
Legislative	4,451	-	-	4,451
General government	224,540	142,984	-	367,524
Public safety	129,791	· -	-	129,791
Public works	210,633	-	_	210,633
Community and economic development	42,557	-	-	42,557
Recreation and culture	14,000	_	-	14,000
Capital outlay	61,716	584	-	62,300
Debt service:				
Principal	-	10,713	-	10,713
Interest	-	1,393		1,393
Total expenditures	687,688	155,674		843,362
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	(8,614	(66,554)	38,925	(36,243)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in	38,925	70,000	_	108,925
Transfers out	(70,000		(38,925)	(108,925)
Transfero da				
Total other financing	(04.075	70.000	(20.005)	
sources (uses)	(31,075	70,000	(38,925)	
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES	(39,689	3,446	-	(36,243)
FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING	501,343	71,665	<u>-</u>	573,008
FUND BALANCES - ENDING	\$ 461,654	\$ 75,111	\$ -	\$ 536,765

# Township of Otsego STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - governmental funds (Continued)

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds	\$ (36,243)
Amounts reported for <i>governmental activities</i> in the statement of activities (page 6) are different because:	
Capital assets: Assets acquired Provision for depreciation	189,372 (79,993)
Long-term debt - principal repayments	 10,713
Change in net assets of governmental activities	\$ 83,849

# Township of Otsego STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS - proprietary fund

	Public Utilities
ASSETS	
Current assets:	
Cash	\$ 946,054
Receivables	75,592
Total current assets	1,021,646
Noncurrent assets:	
Receivables	256,335
Deferred charges	46,333
Capital assets not being depreciated - land	51,860
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	4,318,934
Total noncurrent assets	4,673,462
Total assets	5,695,108
LIABILITIES	
Current liabilities - payables	18,241
Noncurrent liabilities - contracts payable	1,500,000
Total liabilities	1,518,241
NET ASSETS	
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	2,917,127
Unrestricted	1,259,740
Total net assets	\$ 4,176,867

# Township of Otsego STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS - proprietary funds

	Public Utilities			
OPERATING REVENUES Charges for convices	\$	252 /11		
Charges for services	φ	352,411		
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Salaries		43,604		
Payroll taxes		3,820		
Pension		4,552		
Professional fees		35,387		
Insurance		22,391		
Utilities		11,275		
Supplies and maintenance		32,064		
Sewage flow		186,280		
Depreciation		103,598		
Amortization		17,000		
Other		1,438		
Total operating expenses		<u>461,409</u>		
Operating loss		(108,998)		
NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)				
Interest revenue:				
Special assessments		15,975		
Other		40,422		
Capital charges		146,444		
Development fees		92,400		
Interest expense and fiscal charges		(94,829)		
Total nonoperating revenues		200,412		
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS		91,414		
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING		4,085,453		
NET ASSETS - ENDING	\$	4,176,867		

# Township of Otsego STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS - proprietary fund

		Public Utilities
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	•	0.40.000
Receipts from customers and users	\$	346,686
Payments to vendors and suppliers		(294,864)
Payments to employees		(43,604)
Net cash provided by operating activities		8,218
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Receipt of capital charges		146,444
Receipt of development fees		92,400
Collection of special assessment principal		42,193
Collection of special assessment interest		17,135
Acquisition of fixed assets		(6,475)
Principal payments on capital debt		(105,000)
Interest payments on capital debt		(63,728)
Net cash provided by capital and related financing activities		122,969
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Interest received		40,422
NET INCREASE IN CASH		171,609
CASH - BEGINNING		774,445
CASH - ENDING	\$	946,054
Reconciliation of operating loss to net cash provided by operating activities:  Operating loss  Adjustments to reconcile operating loss to net cash	\$	(108,998)
provided by operating activities:  Depreciation and amortization		120,598
Increase in receivables		(5,725)
Increase in payables		2,343
noted to payable		,
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>\$</u>	8,218

# Township of Otsego STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET ASSETS - Agency Fund

March 31, 2008

**ASSETS** 

Cash

\$ 66,820

**LIABILITIES** 

Due to other governmental units

\$ 66,820

### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

The accounting policies of the Township of Otsego, Michigan (the Township), conform to U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (hereinafter referred to as generally accepted accounting principles) as applicable to governments. The following is a summary of the more significant policies.

### a) Reporting entity:

The accompanying financial statements present only the Township. There are no component units, entities for which the Township is considered to be financially accountable.

### b) Government-wide and fund financial statements:

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net assets and the statement of activities) report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the Township. The effect of inter-fund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities, normally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function. Program revenues include: (1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function; and (2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from government-wide financial statements. Major individual governmental funds and major individual enterprise funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

### c) Measurement focus, basis of accounting, and financial statement presentation:

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources, measurement focus, and the accrual basis of accounting as are the proprietary fund and fiduciary fund financial statements. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenues as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources, measurement focus, and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available if they are collected within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the Township generally considers revenues to be available if they are expected to be collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, expenditures relating to compensated absences, and claims and judgments are recorded only when payment is due.

### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued):

c) Measurement focus, basis of accounting, and financial statement presentation (continued): State grants, licenses and permits, charges for services, and interest associated with the current fiscal period are all considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal period. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable only when cash is received by the Township.

The Township reports the following major governmental funds:

The General Fund is the Township's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the Township, except those required to be accounted for in another fund. Revenues are primarily derived from property taxes and state shared revenue.

The Cemetery Fund accounts for the financial resources used for the operational costs of the Township's cemeteries. Revenues are primarily derived from charges for services and contributions from a local unit.

The Township reports the following major proprietary fund:

The Public Utilities Fund accounts for the activities of the Township's sewage collection and water distribution systems.

Private-sector standards of accounting issued prior to December 1, 1989, are generally followed in both the government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements to the extent that those standards do not conflict with the standards of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). Governments also have the option of following subsequent private sector guidance for their business-type activities and enterprise funds, subject to this same limitation. The Township has elected not to follow subsequent private-sector standards.

The Township reports a single fiduciary fund, its Agency Fund, which accounts for assets held by the Township in a trustee capacity or as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governments, and/or other funds. Agency funds are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations.

Amounts reported as program revenues include: (1) charges to customers or applicants for goods, services, or privileges provided; (2) operating grants and contributions; and (3) capital grants and contributions, including special assessments. Internally dedicated resources are reported as general revenues rather than as program revenues. Likewise, general revenues include all taxes.

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues of the proprietary funds relate to charges to customers for sales and services. Operating expenses for proprietary funds include the cost of sales and services, administrative expenses, and depreciation on capital assets. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the government's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

## NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued):

- d) Assets, liabilities, and net assets or equity:
  - *i)* Bank deposits Cash is considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition.
  - *ii)* Receivables In general, outstanding balances between funds are reported as "due to/from other funds." Any residual balances outstanding between the governmental activities and the business-type activities are reported in the government-wide financial statements as "internal balances." No allowance for uncollectible accounts has been recorded as the Township considers all receivables to be fully collectible.
  - *iii)* Capital assets Capital assets, which include property, plant, equipment, and infrastructure assets (e.g., roads, bridges, sidewalks, and similar items), are reported in the applicable governmental or business-type activities column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial individual cost of more than \$1,000 (\$10,000 for infrastructure assets) and an estimated useful life in excess of two years. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation. Governments can elect to account for infrastructure assets either retroactively to June 15, 1980, or prospectively. The Township has elected to account for infrastructure assets prospectively, beginning April 1, 2004.

The Township includes shared fire vehicle costs in the intangible assets of its governmental activities. These costs represent the Township's portion of fire vehicles that are owned by the City of Otsego.

The Township includes sewage capacity rights in the intangible assets of its business-type activities. These costs represent the Township's sewage capacity rights through the City of Plainwell.

Capital assets are depreciated or amortized using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

Buildings and improvements 15 - 60 years
Equipment 3 - 15 years
Sewer and water systems 50 years
Intangible assets 5 - 25 years

*iv)* Fund equity - In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report reservations of fund balance for amounts that are not available for appropriation or are legally restricted by outside parties for use for a specific purpose. Designations of fund balance represent tentative management plans that are subject to change.

### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued):

- d) Assets, liabilities, and net assets or equity (continued):
  - v) Property tax revenue recognition Property taxes are levied as of December 1 on property values assessed as of December 31 of the prior year. The billings are due on or before February 14, after which time the bill becomes delinquent and penalties and interest may be assessed by the Township. Property tax revenue is recognized in the year for which taxes have been levied and become available. The Township considers property taxes levied December 1 to be revenues of the current period.

### NOTE 2 - STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY:

Budgetary information - Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles for all governmental funds. The budget document presents information by fund, function, and department. The legal level of budgetary control adopted by the governing body is the functional level. All annual appropriations lapse at the end of the fiscal year. There are no significant budget variations during fiscal year ended March 31, 2008.

### NOTE 3 - CASH:

At March 31, 2007, the Township's cash, as presented in the financial statements, is as follows:

	 vernmental activities	Business-type activities		iduciary	_	Totals		
Cash	\$ 454,420	\$ 946,054	\$	66,820	\$	1,467,294		

State statutes and the Township's investment policy authorize the Township to make deposits in the accounts of federally-insured banks, credit unions, and savings and loan associations. The Township's deposits are in accordance with statutory authority.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a financial institution, the Township will not be able to recover its deposits. Deposits are exposed to custodial credit risk if they are not covered by federal depository insurance and are uncollateralized. At March 31, 2008, \$1,218,123 of the Township's bank balances of \$1,502,282 was exposed to custodial credit risk because it was uninsured and uncollateralized.

The Township believes that it is impractical to insure all bank deposits due to the amounts of the deposits and the limits of FDIC insurance. As a result, the Township evaluates each financial institution with which it deposits funds and assesses the risk level of each institution. Only the institutions with an acceptable estimated risk level are used as depositories.

### NOTE 4 - RECEIVABLES:

At March 31, 2008, the receivables of the Township's funds are as follows:

	Accounts	Property taxes	Special assess- ments	Inter- govern- mental	Totals
Governmental funds: General Fund Cemetery Fund	\$ - -	\$ 15,352 	\$ - 	\$ 52,290 53,927	\$ 67,642 53,927
Total governmental funds	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$ 15,352</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	\$ 106,217	\$ 121,569
Proprietary fund: Public Utilities Fund	<u>\$ 37,315</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	\$ 294,612	\$ -	\$ 331,927
Noncurrent portion	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	\$ 256,335	\$ -	\$ 256,335

All receivables are considered fully collectible.

### NOTE 5 - CAPITAL ASSETS:

Capital asset activity for the year ended March 31, 2008, was as follows:

	Beginning balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending balance
Governmental activities:	\$ 11,850	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,850
Capital assets not being depreciated - land	<del>ψ 11,000</del>	Ψ –	Ψ	ψ 11,000
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Land improvements	7,000	-	_	7,000
Buildings	234,315	-	-	234,315
Equipment	218,912	20,768	(8,650)	231,030
Intangible assets	893,718	<u>168,604</u>		1,062,322
Subtotal	1,353,945	189,372	(8,650)	1,534,667
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Land improvements	(827)	(234)	_	(1,061)
Buildings	(78,450)	(5,708)	-	(84,158)
Equipment	(161,971)	(25,027)	8,650	(178,348)
Intangible assets	(366,873)	(49,024)		(415,897)
Subtotal	(608,121)	(79,993)	8,650	(679,464)
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	745,824	109,379		<u>855,203</u>
Governmental activities capital assets, net	\$ 757,674	\$ 109,379	<u> </u>	\$ 867,053

# NOTE 5 - CAPITAL ASSETS (Continued):

	Beginning balance	_Increases	Decreases	Ending balance
Business-type activities:		•		
Capital assets not being depreciated - land	<u>\$ 51,860</u>	<u>\$</u> -	<u> </u>	<u>\$ 51,860</u>
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Sewer and water systems	4,917,510	-	-	4,917,510
Equipment	57,573	6,475	· -	64,048
Intangible assets	425,000	-		425,000
Subtotal	5,400,083	6,475		5,406,558
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Sewer and water system	(845,884)	(98,340)	-	(944,224)
Equipment	(39,542)	(5,258)	-	(44,800)
Intangible assets	(81,600)	(17,000)		(98,600)
Subtotal	(967,026)	(120,598)		(1,087,624)
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	4,433,057	(114,123)	<del>-</del>	4,318,934
Business-type activities capital assets, net	\$ 4,484,917	<u>\$ (114,123)</u>	\$ -	\$ 4,370,794

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental functions of the Township as follows:

### Governmental activities:

General government Public safety	\$ 28,900 37.655
Public works	13,438
Total governmental activities	\$ 79,993

### NOTE 6 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS:

Long-term obligations, at March 31, 2008, are comprised of the following individual issues:

### Governmental activities:

\$34,207 2007 installment purchase agreement payable in annual installments ranging from \$10,713 to 11,388, plus interest at 6.30%; final payment due May 2009.	<u>\$</u>	11,388
Business-type activities:		
\$1,375,000 2000 Allegan County water supply and sewage disposal system contract payable - payable in annual installments ranging from \$50,000 to \$75,000, plus interest at 5.10% to 5.30%; final payment due May 2009.	\$	75,000
\$645,000 2004 Allegan County water supply and sewage disposal system contract payable - payable in annual installments ranging from \$35,000 to \$60,000, plus interest at 2.00% to 4.13%; final payment due May 2016.		460,000
\$965,000 2006 Allegan County water supply and sewage disposal system contract payable - payable in annual installments ranging from \$75,000 to \$105,000, plus interest at 3.80% to 4.50%; final payment due May 2020.	_	965,000
Total business-type activities	<u>\$ 1</u>	,500,000

Long-term obligation activity for the year ended March 31, 2008, was as follows:

	eginning balance	Add	ditions	<u>R</u>	eductions		Ending balance		e within ne year
Governmental activities: 2007 installment purchase	\$ 22,101	\$		\$	(10,713)	<u>\$</u>	11,388	\$	11,388
Business-type activities:									
2000 contract payable	\$ 125,000	\$	-	\$	(50,000)	\$	75,000	\$	-
2004 contract payable	515,000		-		(55,000)		460,000		_
2006 contract payable	 965,000						965,000		
	\$ 1,605,000	\$	<b>-</b>	\$	(105,000)	\$	1,500,000	\$_	

### NOTE 6 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS (Continued):

Debt service requirements at March 31, 2008, were as follows:

Year ended March 31:		overnmen rincipal	tal activities Interest		<u>Business-typ</u> Principal		<u>pe activities</u> <u>Interest</u>	
2009	\$	11,388	\$	717	\$	<del></del>	\$	31,021
2010		-		-	2	205,000		57,699
2011	_		_		125,000			51,052
2012		-		-		20,000		46,471
2013		-		-	1	15,000		41,945
2014 - 2018		-		-	7	20,000		122,141
2019 - 2021	-		<u>.</u>		215,000			9,534
Totals	\$	11,388	\$	717	<b>\$1</b> ,5	00,000	\$	359,863

All debt is secured by the full faith and credit of the Township.

### NOTE 7 - DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PENSION PLAN:

The Township provides pension benefits for substantially all of its employees through a defined contribution plan. In a defined contribution plan, benefits depend solely on amounts contributed to the plan, plus investment earnings. Michigan state statute assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions to the Township Board of Trustees. Employees are eligible to participate from the date of employment. Contributions range from \$200 to \$3,600 per employee, at a rate of \$100 per \$1,000 of compensation. The Township's contributions are fully vested immediately. The Township is not a trustee of the plan, nor is the Township responsible for investment management of plan assets.

The Township made the required contributions of \$21,134 for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2008.

### NOTE 8 - INTERFUND TRANSFERS:

A summary of interfund transfers for the year ended March 31, 2008, is as follows:

Fund	Tra	nsfers in	Fund	Tra.	Transfers out			
Cemetery	\$	70,000	General	\$	70,000			
General	<u></u>	38,925	Trash	<del></del>	38,925			
	\$	108,925		<u>\$</u>	108,925			

The transfer to the Cemetery Fund represents unrestricted revenues from the General Fund to help pay for operational costs of the Township's cemeteries.

The transfer to the General Fund represents restricted revenues collected in the Trash Fund to pay for operational costs of trash collection accounted for in the General Fund.

### NOTE 9 - RISK MANAGEMENT:

The Township is exposed to various risks of loss related to property loss, torts, errors and omissions, and employee injuries (workers' compensation). The Township has purchased commercial insurance for each of these claims and is neither self-insured nor participates in a shared-risk pool. Settled claims relating to commercial insurance have not exceeded the amount of insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

### NOTE 10 - CONSTRUCTION CODE ACT:

A summary of construction code enforcement transactions for the year ended March 31, 2008, is as follows:

Revenues	\$ 50,402
Expenses	56,021
Deficiency of revenues over expenses	<u>\$ (5,619)</u>

# REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

# Township of Otsego BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - General Fund

	Original budget	Amended budget	Actual	Variance favorable (unfavorable)
REVENUES				
Property taxes	\$ 191,790	\$ 191,790	\$ 198,137	\$ 6,347
Licenses and permits	76,170	76,537	61,939	(14,598)
State grants	349,006	349,006	343,162	(5,844)
Charges for services	24,500	25,135	20,479	(4,656)
Interest and rentals	26,500	26,500	28,166	1,666
Other	39,568	38,566	27,191	(11,375)
Total revenues	707,534	707,534	679,074	(28,460)
EXPENDITURES				
Legislative	4,951	4,951	4,451	500
General government:				
Supervisor	17,255	17,255	16,445	810
Elections	8,000	8,000	4,040	3,960
Assessor	32,600	32,760	32,760	_
Clerk	28,012	28,012	26,657	1,355
Board of Review	1,500	1,500	1,188	312
Treasurer	28,012	28,012	27,757	255
Hall and grounds	30,000	30,000	23,699	6,301
General administration	119,470	117,104	91,994	25,110
Total general government	264,849	262,643	224,540	38,103
Public safety:				
Fire protection	73,500	74,500	85,172	(10,672)
Inspections	59,000	59,000	44,619	14,381
Total public safety	132,500	133,500	129,791	3,709
Public works:				
Road maintenance and improvements	170,455	170,455	167,740	2,715
Street lighting	5,050	5,050	4,500	550
Drains	5,000	5,000	1,614	3,386
Refuse collection	36,000	36,000	29,052	6,948
Recycling	2,000	2,000	3,958	(1,958)
Engineering	5,000	5,000	3,769	1,231
Total public works	223,505	223,505	210,633	12,872

# Township of Otsego BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - General Fund (Continued)

EXPENDITURES (Continued)	Original budget	Amended budget	Actual	Variance favorable (unfavorable)
Community and economic development - planning and zoning	\$ 41,902	\$ 44,108	\$ 42,557	\$ 1,55 <u>1</u>
Recreation and culture	14,000	14,000	14,000	
Capital outlay	31,600	75,600	61,716	13,884
Total expenditures	713,307	758,307	687,688	70,619
DEFICIENCY OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	(5,773)	(50,773)	(8,614)	42,159
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) Transfer in - Trash Fund Transfer out - Cemetery Fund	37,080 (80,000)	37,080 (80,000)	38,925 (70,000)	1,845 10,000
Total other financing uses	(42,920)	(42,920)	(31,075)	11,845
NET CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES	(48,693)	(93,693)	(39,689)	54,004
FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING	501,343	501,343	501,343	
FUND BALANCES - ENDING	\$ 452,650	\$ 407,650	\$ 461,654	\$ 54,004

# Township of Otsego BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - Cemetery Fund

	Original budget	Amended budget	Actual	Variance favorable (unfavorable)
REVENUES				
Contribution from local unit	\$ 51,723	\$ 51,723	\$ 53,927	\$ 2,204
Charges for services	25,000	33,835	33,925	90
Interest	1,100	1,150	1,218	68
Other	100	100	50	(50)
Total revenues	77,923	86,808	89,120	2,312
EXPENDITURES				
General government	149,091	149,691	142,984	6,707
Capital outlay	1,000	1,000	584	416
Debt service:	.,	.,		
Principal	10,713	10,713	10,713	_
Interest	1,393	1,393	1,393	
Total expenditures	162,197	162,797	155,674	7,123
DEFICIENCY OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	(84,274)	(75,989)	(66,554)	9,435
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES Transfer in - General Fund	80,000	71,715	70,000	(1,715)
NET CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES	(4,274)	(4,274)	3,446	7,720
FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING	71,665	71,665	71,665	
FUND BALANCES - ENDING	\$ 67,391	\$ 67,391	<u>\$ 75,111</u>	\$ 7,720

# SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

# Township of Otsego SCHEDULE OF ANNUAL PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST REQUIREMENTS \$1,375,000 2000 WATER SUPPLY AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM CONTRACT PAYABLE

Fiscal	Interest	Interest			Maturity			Total		
_period_	<u>rate</u>		Лау 1	November 1		date	Principal		<u>requirements</u>	
2009 2010	5.25% 5.30%	\$ 	- 1,987	\$	1,988	05/01/08 05/01/09	\$ 	- 75,000	\$	1,988 76,987
		\$	1,987	\$	1,988		\$	75,000	\$	78,975

Township of Otsego SCHEDULE OF ANNUAL PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST REQUIREMENTS \$645,000 2004 WATER SUPPLY AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM CONTRACT PAYABLE

Fiscal	Interest	Interest			Maturity	Total			
_period	<u>rate</u>	 May 1	November 1_		<u>date</u>	Principal		<u>requirements</u>	
2009	3.250%	\$ -	\$	8,630	05/01/08	\$	-	\$	8,630
2010	3.375%	8,630		7,702	05/01/09		55,000		71,332
2011	3.375%	7,702		6,858	05/01/10		50,000		64,560
2012	3.500%	6,858		5,983	05/01/11		50,000		62,841
2013	3.625%	5,983		5,167	05/01/12		45,000		56,150
2014	3.800%	5,167		3,837	05/01/13		70,000		79,004
2015	3.900%	3,837		2,570	05/01/14		65,000		71,407
2016	4.100%	2,570		1,238	05/01/15		65,000		68,808
2017	4.125%	 1,238		-	05/01/16		60,000		61,238
		\$ 41,985	\$	41,985		\$	460,000	\$	543,970

Township of Otsego SCHEDULE OF ANNUAL PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST REQUIREMENTS \$965,000 2006 WATER SUPPLY AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM CONTRACT PAYABLE

Fiscal	Interest		Interest			Maturity			Total		
_period	_rate		May 1		ember 1	date	_Principal_		<u>requirements</u>		
2009	3.80%	\$	-	\$	20,403		\$	_	\$	20,403	
2010	3.80%		20,403		18,977	05/01/09		75,000		114,380	
2011	3.80%		18,977		17,515	05/01/10		75,000		111,492	
2012	3.90%		17,515		16,115	05/01/11		70,000		103,630	
2013	4.00%		16,115		14,680	05/01/12		70,000		100,795	
2014	4.10%		14,680		13,228	05/01/13		70,000		97,908	
2015	4.15%		13,228		11,232	05/01/14		95,000		119,460	
2016	4.20%		11,232		9,297	05/01/15		90,000		110,529	
2017	4.30%		9,297		7,340	05/01/16		90,000		106,637	
2018	4.35%		7,340		4,810	05/01/17		115,000		127,150	
2019	4.40%		4,810		2,362	05/01/18		110,000		117,172	
2020	4.45%		2,362			05/01/19		105,000		107,362	
		<u>\$</u>	135,959	\$	135,959		\$	965,000	\$	1,236,918	

# Siegfried Crandall<sub>PC</sub>

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July 21, 2008

To the Board of Trustees Township of Otsego

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Township of Otsego for the year ended March 31, 2008, and have issued our report thereon dated July 21, 2008. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information related to our audit.

Our Responsibility under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards

As stated in our engagement letter dated March 11, 2008, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement and are fairly presented in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your responsibilities.

### Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we will advise management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by Township of Otsego are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2008. We noted no transactions entered into by Township of Otsego during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. There are no significant transactions that have been recognized in the financial statements in a different period than when the transaction occurred.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimate affecting the financial statements was capital asset depreciation.

Management's estimate of the capital asset depreciation is based on the estimated useful lives of the Township's capital assets. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the capital asset depreciation in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.



Board of Trustees Page 2 July 21, 2008

The disclosures in the financial statements are neutral, consistent, and clear.

### Audit Adjustments

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define an audit adjustment as a proposed correction of the financial statements that, in our judgment, may not have been detected except through our auditing procedures. Management has recorded all of our proposed audit adjustments.

# Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditors' report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

# Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter associated with the audits for the year ended March 31, 2008.

### Other Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Township of Otsego's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

# Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

# Communication Regarding Internal Control

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the Township of Otsego as of and for the year ended March 31, 2008, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the Township of Otsego's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Our consideration of internal control included procedures to evaluate the design of controls relevant to an audit of financial statements and to determine whether they have been implemented, but it did not include procedures to test the operating effectiveness of controls, and accordingly, was not directed to discovering significant deficiencies in internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control.

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Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as discussed below, we identified a deficiency in internal control that we consider to be a material weakness.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

The Township has not implemented a system of controls to prepare financial statements in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, including procedures to achieve the objectives of recording revenue and expense accruals, the capitalization and depreciation of capital assets, and the presentation of financial statement disclosures. This is a recurring comment. The Township has determined that the additional benefits derived from implementing such a system would not outweigh the costs incurred to do so.

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Trustees of the Township of Otsego and the State of Michigan Department of Treasury and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Sigfied Crantall P.C.